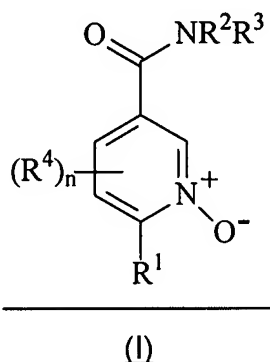


## AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound of claim 1 wherein A~~  
compound having the structure (I):



and optical isomers, diastereomers, enantiomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

$R^1$  is  $R^5-SO_2^-$  and  $R^5$  is selected from alkyl, heteroalkyl, aryl, carbocycle, aryl(alkylene), and carbocycle(alkylene)

$R^2$  is hydrogen;

$R^3$  is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted aryl(alkylene);

$R^4$  is selected from halogen, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted carbocycle aliphatic ring, substituted or unsubstituted amino, or hydroxy, wherein, when  $R^4$  is halogen, it is not para to the N-oxide group; and

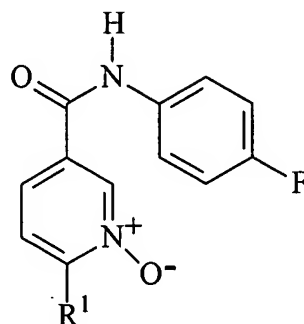
$n$  is 0 or 1.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 5 wherein  $R^1$  is selected from  $(C_1-C_6\text{alkyl})SO_2^-$ ,  $PhSO_2^-$ , fluorinatedphenyl $SO_2^-$ ,  $PhCH_2SO_2^-$ , cyclopentyl $SO_2^-$ , *m*-carboxyphenyl $SO_2^-$ , *m*-methylphenyl $SO_2^-$ , and  $HOOC-(C_1-C_4\text{alkylene})SO_2^-$ .

Claims 8-14 (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 145 having the structure (II)



(II), wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)SO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, PhSO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, fluorinatedphenylSO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, PhCH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, cyclopentylSO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, *m*-carboxyphenylSO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, *m*-methylphenylSO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, and HOOC-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylene)SO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>.

Claims 16-21 (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A compound that is 6-ethanesulfonyl-N-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-oxynicotinamide.

Claims 23-44 (Cancelled)